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A Modeſt

ATTEMPT

TO PROVE

Dr. *H*— not the Author

OF THE

Bouchain Dialogue.

*Defoe
30.712
.A10M

A Modeſt

ATTEMPT

TO PROVE

Dr. *H*--not the Author

OF THE

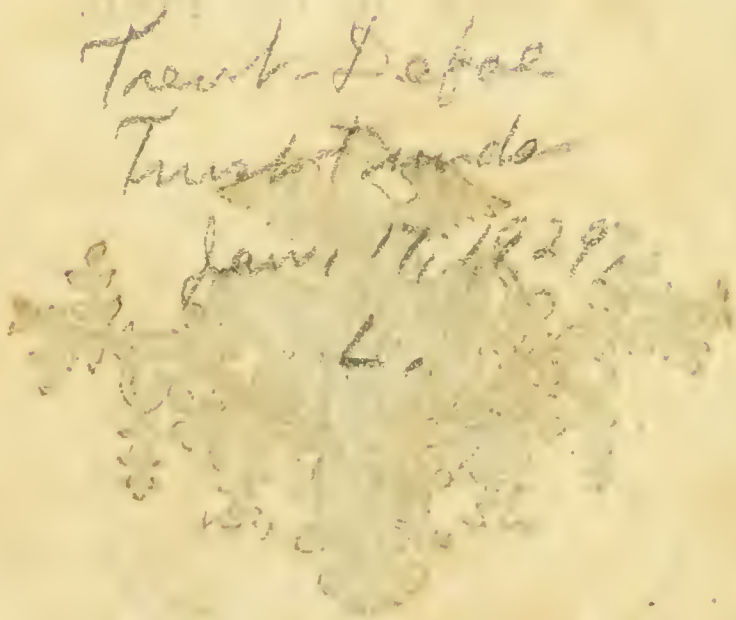
Bouchain Dialogue.

In a LETTER to *W. J.* now at the *Bath.*

WITH A

CATALOGUE of what choice BOOKS are now in the Preſs.

LONDON,
Printed in the Year 1712. (Price 6 *d.*)



A Modeſt

ATTEMPT

TO PROVE

Dr. *H*--not the Author

OF THE

Bouchain Dialogue.

SIR, *London*, *Octob.* 3. 1711.

I Received the Favour of a Letter from you on the ſecond Inſtant, and was glad to hear the *Bath* had ſo fully anſwered the Benefit you pro-

propoſed from it.——As to the Pamphlet you mention'd, lately publiſh'd, and entitl'd *Bouchain, &c.* and for which you expreſs ſuch a Concern, I have endeavour'd to find out what Reception it meets with from thoſe, who are generally eſteem'd the beſt Judges of the weekly Impertinence of this buſy City, and as ſuch, are appointed to read for ſo many of our young Gentlemen as are brought up to a Confidence of Politicks, which may as well ſtand for a Teſtimony of their Modeſty as Judgment.

Firſt, Sir, 'tis not yet agreed who ſhall have the Honour of this late Performance, which keeps a great many from declaring their Opinions, and renders the Converſation of our moſt learned Coffee-Houſes much more agreeable than we may reaſonably hope to find them after this important Diſcovery.

Some

Some there are of ſo very a Phlegmatick Diſpoſition, as to take little or no notice about it; others indeed, who have a greater Intereſt in this Affair, and who generally meet in ſome convenient Place, to ſwear away an Hour or two before Dinner-time, ſtrenuouſly aſſert, 'tis the Work of a Man, of large Experience, and ſound Underſtanding. But theſe Gentlemen now and then meet with a brisk Antagoniſt, that lays about him without Mercy, ſwears 'tis damn'd Nonſenſe, writ by ſome canting Chaplain, travelling Incendiary, or dragooning Proſtitute to an abandon'd Faction. I need not tell you whom the turbulent Spleen of ſuch airy, reſtleſs Boutefeus intend by this Character, but hope to make it evident to you, that the Reverend Dr. *H.* your good Friend, cou'd have no Hand in this notable Dialogue, and ſo eaſe you of the Pain you ſeem to lye under for his Reputation. And this I

ſhall

ſhall do, by producing firſt from thence ſeveral Paſſages, and then confronting them with as many from the Doctor's genuine and allow'd Works, by which you will ſee ſuch an Inconſiſtency, and Difference in Opinion, as muſt convince you, the Performance we are now conſidering is the raw Eſſay of ſome young and aukward Libeller.

Firſt, Our Author ſeems throughout his whole Performance to equal the Action of taking *Bouchain* to the moſt renown'd Triumph our General can boaſt of, and boldly affirms, his Grace was never ſo fatigued in his whole Life, as in this Siege. Now, Sir, I am really afraid of a very expenſive Conſequence, ſhould I allow this Action to be ſo very meritorious; I know not but ſome Demand may follow, eſpecially, ſince he tells us *Pag.* 42. *His Grace has lived to ſee all the Fruits of his other Victories thrown away, and no other Footſtep, except* Woodſtock (a very

ry Trifle) *remain.* Yet when I have carefully calculated what we have paid for this Exploit, and as carefully caſt up the Benefit our Nation is to reap by it, I ſhall be better able to tell what to ſay to it.

That his Lordſhip was ſo fatigued, was indeed a very melancholy thing, and I am heartily ſorry for it, and wiſh my Sorrow may do his Grace as much good, as his great Fatigue has done me.

But the Sequel of this Action is very pompouſly diſplay'd in *Pag.* 34. and amounts to this: *Bruſſels* and *Brabant* were deliver'd, and our next Siege will be either *Aire* or *Cambray*, which in ſhort is, two Towns were deliver'd, which we are not ſure were in any great danger, and there will be one the leſs to take next Year, and therefore this Year, within a very few Pages af-

ter, he *has a ſure hope no one will dare to make a Peace.*

The Reaſon of this Hope is evident, firſt, becauſe Peace cannot be made without the delivery of all *Spain* to the *Bourbon* Line; Secondly, we generouſly enter'd the War to eſtabliſh the Houſe of *Auſtria* upon that Throne; and laſtly, if we don't do it, we have ſpent our Blood and Fortunes to a fine purpoſe.

As to the firſt of theſe, I am not ſure the Deſign of the Peace is to give up all *Spain* to *France*, if I allow the Author for the ſake of making a pretty Figure in Politicks, to diſpoſe the preſent Miniſtry to act as he thinks proper, it's more in all probability than will be granted to them when they come to be in earneſt; nor is it to be preſumed, that, becauſe our Dialogue-Writer takes the liberty to be ſome-

what

what free with them, they muſt be as free with themſelves.

The ſecond Reaſon which reſpects our Generoſity, is not to be diſputed, and to this day half the World over the *Engliſh* are the moſt generous Creatures, and ſo rich that 'tis an unſpeakable Pleaſure to be ally'd to them.

Laſtly, Whatever the Event may prove, I ſhall be glad if we have taken ſo large Steps to the Honour of *Great Britain*, you will not be ſurprized if I go out of the modern faſhionable way of Writing, and make no mention of our good Allies the *Dutch*, nor rank me with the diſaffected Rigides, if I aſſure you, I am not without ſome hope of ſeeing a Miniſtry provide an honourable Security for one Nation, and not invade the leaſt Rights of another, and do a Juſtice to themſelves without doing an Injury to their Neighbours. Hence you may

conjecture we ſhall either make a joint Peace with our Allies, or that they muſt make a joint War with us, and by that means bear ſomewhat of that heavy burden which has too long oppreſſed us.

But I ſhall now proceed to ſhew you, that the Author of the *Bouchain*-Dialogue has not yet determin'd what he wou'd have. In *Pag.* 41. after having told us what we have been fighting for, and that we have not yet got it, he dares any Man to ſign a Peace; by this it ſeems he wou'd ſtill go on, leſt *Spain* and the *Weſt-Indies* ſhould be the Duke of *Anjou*'s. *Such a Treaty*, he tells us, *wou'd certainly be worſe than what ſeveral Lords were impeach'd for.* Now I cou'd ask a Queſtion which wou'd a little puzzle our Author for an Anſwer; Whether, if he were ſure a more effectual Impeachment than that was, or a much later happen'd to proye, cou'd be ſet on foot againſt the

the preſent Miniſtry for ſigning ſuch a Peace, which, (out of his abundant knowledge of them,) he imagines they are ſo impatient for, he wou'd not, as well as he loves the Houſe of *Auſtria*, and as affectionate as he is to our good Allies the *Dutch*, poſtpone their Intereſt for ſome ſmall time. But

In *Pag.* 35. we find him, however his Anger at other times may breathe War and Defiance, talking ſomewhat unfortunately for his purpoſe. How does his Paſſion lead him out of the way, when he tells us, *His Grace is diveſted of all Power both at home and abroad*, that *Pains is taken to mortifie* him, *to make him diſcontented* and *throw up his Command?* Now let us enquire who it is that uſes his Grace in ſo barbarous a manner. 'Tis her Majeſty that ſends him abroad, that continues him General of all her Forces, Horſe and Foot, her Plenipotentiary at the *Hague*, that pays him for his Service,

and

and remits him ſuch large and ſeaſonable Sums as may aſſiſt him in giving the deciſive Blow to this long War. And to ſay after this, *That thoſe only, who can diveſt his Grace of all Power and Authority, have actually done it, and put him as a Cypher, at the Head of a faithful and ready Soldiery*, Pag. 5. l. 6. What is it but to inſinuate ſuch Fears and Jealouſies as wou'd infallibly tend to Mutiny and Diſtraction? Are our laſt Millions to be rais'd to enable our Army to follow and obey chearfully a General that is diſmiſs'd, diveſted of all Authority, without a Power of leading and commanding? This wou'd be ſuch a wanton Extravagancy as is not yet to be paralell'd, and is ſuch a Compliment to the Throne, as only ſuch Writers are capable of making. And the Effect of ſuch Inſinuations wou'd induce our Allies to believe it high time to take care of themſelves.

But, after this unfair and malicious Repreſentation, what Opinion muſt we have of his Grace? Can we ſuppoſe him content to take the Field for the ſake only of that Profit which attends his many Titles of Command, and tamely ſit down diveſted of all Power, but that of making a few Returns to his Dutcheſs? Such a Temper wou'd indeed deſerve to be mortified; but ſince he is only mortified ſo far as he is of ſuch a Temper, the Nation will never think he wants a ſufficient Power. But let us a little conſider what our Libeller wou'd mean by ſuch an infamous Aſſertion.

As to his Lordſhip's being diveſted of all Power at home: If he wou'd perſuade us there is a certain great Lady at ſome of his Grace's Homes, either his home at *Blenheim*, or *Windſor*, or St. *Albans*, or *London*, that has uſed his Lordſhip ſo very inhumanly,

'tis

'tis a piece of ſecret Hiſtory I can't ſay any thing to; his Grace beſt knows with what Moderation that Lady can exerciſe an uſurp'd Power. But perhaps our Author grieves that his Grace has no Civil Employment, and rails at the Miniſtry for not uſing their Intereſt to make him Almoner to Her Majeſty, or Maſter of the Buck-Hounds; but here he is entirely out: And to be told that the preſent Miniſtry, in this Inſtance, is exactly following the Steps of the laſt; his Grace was by them to that degree neglected, as not to be conſulted on Civil Employments, they made and unmade Officers without acquainting him with it; and his Lordſhip at his Return from *Flanders* wou'd be often ſurpriz'd to find ſtrange Alterations at Court, his beſt Friends out and he know nothing of it. However, this Malice ſeems the more contemptible, as it pretends to come from one perſonally known to his Lordſhip, and who has been long an Eye-Witneſs

neſs to his Actions; by this he would have us take him for Chaplain General to Her Majeſty's Forces, as if, of all the ready Pens about his Grace, ſhould there at any time be occaſion to revile the Queen and Government, none cou'd ſo well do it as the Reverend Dr. *H.* But this Pamphlet does not only reflect upon her Majeſty and Government, but in a very rude manner treats the Duke of *M.* and therefore can hardly be Dr. *H's.* And ſo far are we from lending Faith to ſuch Abſurdities, as to leave the Doctor in his own good time to anſwer them: He will tell us, neither his Grace, nor the Dutcheſs, are to that degree ſtript of their Offices and Honours, as not to be able to ſupport that Splendor in which they have hitherto lived; but had her Grace only a ſufficient Bounty from the Throne, to maintain ſome of her Daughters in a clean and virtuous way of Life, wou'd any of them think it a Hardſhip to be ſo reſtrain'd? There

is too another Falſhood in this little paſſionate Writer, which we muſt leave to the Doctor, and that is, where the poor *Examiner* and his Party are charged with crying up Prince *Eugene*, with no other View than that of leſſening the Duke of *Marlborough*, and for being ſo *abſurd as to pretend what was done by thoſe two Generals in Conjunction, to be the Actions of one only.*

Now that it is certainly ſo pretended, is, I ſuppoſe, proved from an Obſervation he has made, that one only has been paid for them: That the Emperor has built Prince *Eugene* a Palace, which when finiſh'd will ſtand him in 500000*l.* that he has given him a Penſion of 5000*l.* a Year for Life, out of his Poſt-Office, and beſtow'd upon others of his Family to the Value of about 12000*l.* a Year, and only conferr'd the empty Title of *Prince of the Empire* on his Grace of *Marlborough*:

And all this becauſe ſome Party-Fellows, ſome little obſcure *Examiner*, not much unlike the Wretch who audaciouſly went where his Miſtreſs ſent him, and trinketted with *France*, without letting the *Medley* into the Secret, made a falſe Repreſentation of the March to *Bavaria*, the Battle at *Schellenbergh*, and the Wonders at *Ramelies*, and extoll'd Prince *Engene* only with an Intent to leſſen the Reputation of the Duke of *Marlborough*. But I hope however hard his Grace was dealt with in thoſe times, he will not be deny'd a juſt Share in the Glory of theſe two laſt Campaigns. Prince *Engene* neither wants, nor is he ſo fond of Laurels, as not to make his Grace, if he will but pleaſe to requeſt it, a Preſent of the entire Honour of this Summer's Performance, which ſhews his Highneſs a very good Friend to my Lord Duke, and in no great Danger of being brought off from him; ſo that perhaps if they can but fight on,

and we pay on, *from a good War we may come to a good Peace.*

But that the Peace the World now talks so much of, is to be a separate Peace, may be prov'd from *Mat*'s trinketting; and that none of our Allies are to be let into a Knowledge of what we are about, is evident, in that we are reproach'd in all publick Papers for offering to send for Monsieur *du Buys*, and other Ministers, to concert Matters with. ——— It's difficult to leave this *Parag.* without making some Observations upon the indecent and Ungentleman-like Reflection, which the *Medly* is pleased to pass upon the *Examiner*'s no Birth and Fortune; as if a Man, because he was born to no Fortune, could not marry One, and at any time hide his Birth with a Gown, and talk as big as the best: But for the *Medly* to take this Privilege, only because his Mother was very well known, his Father pretty well gues's'd

at,

at, and his Grandfather in ſome Hopes of being diſcover'd, is an Inſolence not eaſy to be forgot. I could now, for any Pleaſure I take in peruſing the incoherent Folly of a warm diſcontented Brain, diſmiſs my Author, and go over to the Doctor, but that he ſo often puts me a Queſtion, which if I ſhould not anſwer I might fear he would think me at a ſtand. I wou'd fain know, ſays he, after all the Splutter which has been made, what the preſent Miniſtry has done in *Spain*. To which may be anſwer'd, it has at leaſt been endeavour'd to put Affairs in thoſe Parts in much better order than they happen'd to be, when the laſt Miniſtry was ſo fond of *Flanders*. He that has now the Command of that part of the War will not be content to be a Blank; our Troops will be more compleat, and better regulated; and at home you will find a Parliament always ready to call to a ſtrict Account thoſe Perſons whoſe chief

buſineſs

buſineſs it is to remit Payments for that Branch of the War; and if after all this Care, we cannot bring Matters to bear, we muſt, as the ingenious Author of *The Management of the War*, has it, *recover that Kingdom by proper Applications to* France, *Pag.* 37. *Par.* 1. However ſince the laſt Miniſtry was pleaſed to ſend their Favourite *French-man* to play away a few Millions in thoſe Parts, I can't think, they will take it ill, if we deſire our *Britain* in his turn ſhou'd take a little Paſtime as well as his Predeceſſor. But if this cannot be done, without ſending him to *Almanza*, I muſt beg leave to demur.

And thus you ſee, Sir, our couragious Author can gallop thro' thick and thin for the mean Satisfaction of daſhing thoſe that come near him, and how little able his Spleen is to maintain a Regularity in Faction. The Thread of his Diſcourſe indeed tends

to frighten the Miniſtry from ſigning a Peace; but in ſome Places, as I have fully ſhewn, he lets fall at once all the Venom he is Maſter of; and if he had any Credit in the World, wou'd induce our Allies, by what he has been pleaſed to mention concerning his Grace, to think their chief Prop too weak to be depended upon. And this is one undeniable Inſtance, that a Man that knows not himſelf, ought not to claim the Privilege of judging others. And now to imagine our Reverend Doctor the Producer of ſuch pitiful Malice, is to acknowledge a very little Acquaintance with him; the Doctor in all his Sermons, Ballads, and Pamphlets does manifeſtly diſcover a quite different Temper, and as becomes his Gown never appears but in Defence of abuſed Innocence. Thus we might have expected from him Reaſons, why the laſt Miniſtry contracted ſuch large Debts? Why even her Majeſty's Houſhold was unpaid,

for

for ſo many Years? Why they did not think fit to be too ſevere in calling for Money out of Receivers Hands? Why the two richeſt Men in the laſt Miniſtry and this Kingdom, did not think it proper to make any Purchaſe in the Country where they got their immenſe Wealth? And laſtly, why the preſent Set of Gentlemen in Power have taken quite contrary Steps? This we might have look'd for, and therefore cou'd not be ſurprized at any ſuch good natur'd Endeavour.

But now to his own Writings, in order to prove him entirely free from what you and I wou'd not willingly ſee him guilty of: And firſt to prove him a hearty Zealot for Peace, I will turn to his Sermon preach'd at *Avennes*, *Sept.* 9. 1711. This Sermon is entitled *God's Charge to* Joſhua; and by the whole of its Reaſoning wou'd ſhew you the Author has nothing more at heart than Union and Peace; but

that

that I may not, which, the good Doctor knows, is too often the way with ſome People, make him ſay what he never dream'd of, I will give you his own Words. His Diſcourſe is upon the Inconſtancy of Human Nature; and even in *Pag.* 7. he tells us, *Of all the Vertues Human Nature wou'd aſpire to,* CONSTANCY *ſeems to be that 'tis leaſt made for: to purſue ſteadily the ſame thing for any time together, is a ſort of Immortality.* Then he plainly tells us, *how the* Iſraelites *wou'd not fight under* Moſes, becauſe they thought they were to *be ſacrificed to his Ambition,* with ſeveral other Obſervations, which might prove of uſe to us upon a very little Reflexion; we may here remark the Doctor does not tell his Audience, that either Fidelity to their Prince or Sincerity to their Friends, had any thing in them that impoſed a Hardſhip upon Human Nature; the Doctor too well knew, how far 'twas proper to touch upon ſuch Subjects,

and that *Joſhua* had too much Modeſty to bear the being told, how far he had excelled in thoſe Vertues. The Inconſtancy of Human Nature was what he was to manage, and to inſinuate by that to his Grace, that he ought not to build too good an Opinion of his Army upon this ſingle Action, that it was not impoſſible ſome unaccountable Whim might get into their Heads, and make them, in their Rage, talk ſomewhat diſreſpectfully of his Grace, that he was either covetous, or ambitious, or unmindful of Merit, and ſo pretending to be tired with a Ten Years War, obſtinately refuſe to follow his Grace, tho' in ſight of *Jordan*: From this Conſideration of the Inconſtancy of Human Nature, his Lordſhip might be lead to believe there might be ſome Inconſtancy even in the perverſe People on this ſide the Water, that ſome diſcontented Spirits amongſt us might be of Opinion, that *Jordan* is not ſo nigh as

it has been ſaid to be, for ſome Years paſt; that the Country, according to Report, is indeed *a fine Country*, but that the Men may chance to prove *too tall for them.* And hence perhaps his Grace may be lead to think of concluding a good War with *a good Peace*, that is, with ſome regard to the *main Article of the Grand Alliance*, and not too much ſlighting the Advice of the *Medly*'s Friend, who has the *Honour to be perſonally known to his Lordſhip.*

Beſides his Grace may chance to conſider, that moſt of our Allies are but Men; the *Portugueſe* are certainly Men, the Duke of *Savoy* is certainly a Man, and I am credibly inform'd that even the *Dutch* are Men. Now if, out of the Inconſtancy of Human Nature, any of theſe Men ſhou'd forget the main Article of the Grand Alliance, and ſtrike up a ſeparate Peace, to whoſe Ambition ſhou'd we be then ſacrific'd? Aud is not this a ſufficient

Teſtimony of the peaceable Diſpoſition of the Doctor. I grant you, *Pag.* 23. he ſeems to turn upon his Heel, and exhort us *to have Patience and wait God's Leiſure*, and tells us, then nothing but *our own Ingratitude* can hinder us of having all *Jordan* to our ſelves. Now if we conſider, as we ſtill muſt, the difficulty of Conſtancy in Human Nature, and how large a ſhare Ingratitude has in the Inconſtancy of Man, 'tis evident what the Conſequence wou'd be at.

Beſides, however the Doctor might once have thought like our Dialogue-Writer, 'tis plain he is too good a Politician to agree with him in his preſent Sentiments. Whatever the *Medly* may think of it, the Doctor is willing to prove to him, if he will but have Patience, that the Emperor is as dead as *Partridge*, that a Hundred and fifty thouſand Maſſes have been ſaid for the Repoſe of his Soul; That the

Dauphine

Dauphine is not quite ſo much alive, as he is pleas'd to make him in ſome of his Pamphlets: If he can make this appear, as he does not much deſpair of, he hopes the *Medly*, and his Friend ſo perſonally known to his Grace will think Affairs ſomewhat alter'd in *Europe* ſince they firſt drew their Pens for the whole *Spaniſh* Monarchy.

But if nothing leſs will ſatifie them, the Peace-makers muſt be content to let them make and ſing their Ballads as they think fit. But in the mean time give me leave to ſay this Cry of *Spain*, *Spain*, all *Spain*, brings to my remembrance a Play, where we have a mad *Engliſh-man* repreſented perpetually raving for *Beef*, *Beef*. Now I fancy theſe two, when put together wou'd make a pleaſant Scene; and however ſome Perſons might be divided betwixt *Medly* and Madman, I ſhou'd be firſt inclin'd to ſecure the *Engliſh-man* his Beef.

Whether

Whether you, Sir, are of the ſame Opinion I know not, but hope I have made you more at Eaſe in convincing you that Dr. *H.* has been abuſed in having been ſuppoſed the Author of ſo ſcandalous and profligate a Paper. And now, Sir, aſſuring you I will take all Opportunities to juſtify our good Friend, I take my leave of you, and am with all Truth and Sincerity Yours

W. H.

BOOKS

Now in the

PRESS,

That will be delivered to all Subſcribers upon the 18th. of this Month, at the ſeveral Coffee-Houſes which were appointed to take in Subſcriptions.

I. A *Choice Collection of Lies*, firſt invented about the Time of the Diſſolution

tion of the laſt Parliament---- Collected by Sir *Gil--- H---t.* *N. B.* Several of theſe Lies have been of excellent Uſe in Foreign Parts, and are to be had at a reaſonable Rate, at Meſſieurs *J. P.* and *W. H.* Bookſellers at the *Hague.*

II. *The St.* Albans *Feaſt*, with an Account of the Loyal Principles of all that were at it. One Sheet ſtitch'd, 1 *d.*

III. A Diſſertation upon a Bowling-Green. Addreſs'd to the Lady *Fr---v---lle.*

IV. A ſerious Diſcourſe upon *Totum.* Dedicated to the D--ſs of *M--*, V.

V. A learned Comment upon ---- *Rupili Puſatq; Venenum.* By the Reverend Dr. *H.* Dedicated to the Bp. of St. *A---*

VI. A full Proof that the Words *Villain, Infamous Libeller, Raſcally Proſtitute, Notorious Lyar*, with ſeveral other Words never yet made uſe of. By a true and modeſt Divine: But may be us'd by way of confuting a difficult Argument; and are only to be found in the Works of one Dr. *Francis H--* no Doctor of Phyſick nor Law

VII. Reaſons why the preſent Miniſtry ought not to make a Peace, unleſs the King of *Fr*-- will acknowledge the Proteſtant Succeſſion. Writ by one who had a large Share in all Treaties of Peace during the Power of the laſt Miniſtry.

VIII. The P----r no Baſtard. Firſt diſcovered by the learned Managers at Dr. *Sacheverell's* Tryal; and now collected into a formal Argument by *B. H--y*, of St. *P. P.*

IX. A new Trip to the Moon, with an Account of ſeveral Curioſities never yet obſerv'd

ſerv'd by Travellers to that Place. By *William W--n*, M. A. and dedicated to the Upper Houſe of C----n.

X. The Plunderer; a Satyr againſt the Tyranny of ſome modern Viceroys. *Not* dedicated to the Duke of *Or--d*.

XI. The Fire-Brand removed: Or, a Flight from *Windſor* to St. *Albans*. Being a pleaſant Ballad, ſet to the *New Tune of* Mat's *Peace*.

XII. New Brooms better then Old; to be proved from an Obſervation that leſs Dirt and not ſo many venomous Creatures

Creatures are now to be found in the feveral Palaces which belong to Her M---y as formerly.

F I N I S.